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*Statistics of Newspapers in various Countries.**

By P. L. SIMMONDS, F.S.S.

[Read before the Statistical Society of London, 21st June, 1841.]

IT is worthy of observation, that the History and Statistics of the Newspaper Press, and of Periodical Literature in general, have occupied a very small share of public attention. This will appear the more remarkable, when we consider the popularity of the subject, its interesting features, and the important bearings and influence of this portion of the Press upon society. It may be that the vast extent of the newspaper press, the facility with which these ephemeral sheets may be consulted, and the regular manner in which intelligence from all lands is brought home by their aid to our own firesides, with a degree of correctness and speed unparalleled in the history of bygone ages, make them to be comparatively slighted, after the manner of the adage—that familiarity breeds contempt. Were they more scarce and inaccessible, their importance would perhaps be better estimated, and their influence and benefits more highly appreciated.

It is a strange anomaly, that in England alone, newspaper writers are looked down upon as an inferior caste of literati; and that the purveyors of intelligence, whose especial business is to inform and instruct the public—who must of necessity be men of diversified talent, and extensive knowledge—who are in many cases individuals of superior literary attainments—and who are generally the first to publish and make known important inventions and scientific improvements—whose judgment, moreover, is to approve or condemn works, treating often of the most exalted or most abstruse subjects,—are themselves a proscribed race. And yet, at no former period perhaps, was the Newspaper Press so popular, or in such high repute and importance as at the present time. This is more especially the case in France and in England. In the former country, the pens of the greatest men and most talented authors are continually engaged on periodical literature. There is, however, this marked difference between the two countries, that in France the writers, with an honest pride, generally append their names to the articles which they contribute. MM. Thiers, Guizot, B. Constant, Chateaubriand, Arago, and De Villèle have been frequent contributors to newspapers;—while in England, to identify a distinguished public man, or an eminent author as a newspaper writer, would be considered a decided insult. And yet the secret history of the English newspapers, if laid bare, would display a host of talent, and an array of distinguished names, that would scarcely be credited by those who are not acquainted with the subject.

If newspapers be, as we believe they are, one of the best criterions of the intelligence and commercial prosperity of a nation, it follows that an enquiry into the subject must be attended with beneficial results, particularly in a statistical point of view. The Newspaper Press presents a wide and interesting field of observation; and an examination into the channels of intelligence and information possessed by different countries, treating of their number, literary and political character, freedom of dis-

* Mr. Simmonds is preparing, for early publication, an extensive work on the History and Statistics of the British and Foreign Newspaper Press, which will enter largely and more in detail upon these various matters.

cussion, whether fettered, or not, by fiscal and legal restrictions, typography, price, antiquity, &c., would form a curious index to the civilization, commercial prosperity, and literary taste and talent of the various nations of the world. Even as a bare index for reference to authors, advertisers, and politicians—setting aside its statistical importance—it would not be without its advantages. The history, too, of Newspapers is intimately interwoven with the historical annals of every country, exemplifying the progress of literature and science, and throwing much light upon the state of society and the philosophy of the times in which they were published. It is therefore surprising that the Newspaper Press has not yet found its historian. A few casual papers, in magazines, concerning portions only of the subject, and written rather with a view to amuse than to instruct, are all that have ever yet appeared. The subject, as a whole, remains untouched, and is untrodden ground for any adventurous mind to examine and explore. It is indeed a vast field, which, from the importance of its various relations, can scarcely be grasped by any single individual, without the co-operation of other parties, and the contemporaneous assistance of those literary societies which every principal continental town now possesses.

In England, at the time of the reduction of the stamp on newspapers to one penny, the subject of the press was necessarily thrust prominently before the public eye; but the attention it arrested was momentary and fleeting, and after the object for which it had been agitated was attained, and a few ably-written articles had appeared, entering somewhat more minutely than heretofore into the statistics of the London and provincial press, the matter dropped once more into comparative oblivion. The only existing index to the press of Great Britain is the meagre broad sheet published occasionally by some of the London newspaper agents, which is generally very imperfect. As to the press of other countries, little or nothing is known. Some occasional traveller, when he publishes his observations on men and manners, may now and then incidentally allude to the newspapers of the countries which he visits, but few take any trouble to obtain information on this head that may be depended upon, or consulted with advantage.

In the belief that even a cursory glance at the newspaper press of the world will, in the absence of more extensive information, be acceptable to the members of the Statistical Society of London, we shall proceed to lay before them an outline of the subject, to the extent which our information will permit.

France, America, England, and Germany, are the countries in which newspapers flourish in the greatest number. Our present limits will not permit us to enter into any minute particulars; but we shall pass in review the press of different countries, and state, where attainable, the progress that has been made by each in this branch of literature during the last half-century.

As in most other questions of importance, the claimants for the honour of the first printed newspaper have been numerous; France, Germany, Italy, and England have severally contested the priority. Until within a very late period, England had established, on what was believed to be conclusive and satisfactory evidence, her title to the disputed honour. “The *English Mercurie*, published by authority for the prevention of false Reports,” “imprinted at London by her Highness’ printer, in

1588," of which three or four numbers are preserved in the British Museum, was supposed to be a genuine publication.

The claim, however, has recently,* upon evidence which cannot be gainsaid, been found to be untenable, and the merit of priority in the publication of printed newspapers, like the authorship of the Letters of Junius, will probably ever remain undecided, a fruitful field for debate and disputation.

The United Kingdom.—London, as the capital, and most populous city of the British Isles, has always been the centre from which the largest number, and the most influential papers have emanated. When we look back to the sources of information possessed by our forefathers, scarcely two centuries ago, we are astonished at the inferiority of the channels of intelligence of those days. In 1696, we are informed that there were but 9 newspapers published in London, all of them appearing at weekly intervals. In 1709 the number of papers in London had increased to 18, of which only one was published daily. In 1724 the number was 3 daily, 6 weekly, 7 three times a week, "3 half-penny Posts," and the *London Gazette*, twice a week.

The following Table will shew their subsequent progression:—

YEARS.	Number of Newspapers Published in				
	London.	England and Wales, and British Islands.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Total.
1782	18	50	8	3	79
1792	42	70	14	..	..
1795	38	72	13	35	158
1809	63	93	24	37	217
1815	55	122	26	49	252
1830	54	154	36	60	304
1833	55	183	46	75	369
1836	71	194	54	78	397
1837	85	237	65	71	453
1838	88	224	56	77	445
1839	124†	237	66	89	516
1840	109†	224	70	90	493

In 1792 there were in London 13 daily and 20 semi-weekly and weekly papers. In 1795 there were 14 daily, 10 three times a week, 2 twice a week, and 12 weekly. The amount of revenue which they yielded to government in 1788 was 129,000*l.* In 1790 the number of copies of papers printed, was 14,035,639. From August 1791 to August 1792, the number printed was 14,794,193, which yielded to government 118,498*l.* The number in the following year, ended August 1793, was 17,073,621, which produced 142,280*l.* In 1824 the number of copies of newspapers published weekly, was about 500,000, or 26,000,000 in the year.

* In a letter to Antonio Panizzi, Esq., Keeper of the Printed Books in the British Museum, by Thomas Watts, 1839.

† These are computed from the Stamp Returns for the last quarter of the year, and include several literary journals and price currents, which are not strictly newspapers; about 90 or 100 may be fairly considered newspapers.

In 1836 (year ended 15th September), when the Stamp duty was 4d., the total number of stamps issued for the United Kingdom was 35,576,056. In 1839 (ending at the same period), the total number of 1d. stamps issued, was as follows :—

London	29,127,583
English provincial papers	19,905,801
<hr/>	
England and Wales . .	49,033,384
Scotland	3,974,444
Ireland	5,509,034
<hr/>	
Total	58,516,862

The consumption of stamps has therefore increased 64 per cent., or nearly two-thirds, since the reduction of the duty. In London there are about 100 different newspapers published, but the number varies continually, as many start into existence and are continued only for a few weeks: some have been established for nearly a century; others from 50 to 60 years. The oldest existing London papers are the *English Chronicle*, or *White-hall Evening Post*, which was commenced in 1747; the *St. James's Chronicle*, 1761; the *Morning Chronicle*, 1769.

The oldest existing English provincial papers are the *Lincoln Mercury*, published at Stamford, 1695; *York Courant*, 1700; *Kentish Gazette*, 1703; *Worcester Journal*, 1709; *Newcastle Courant*, 1711; *Northampton Mercury*, 1720; *Gloucester Journal*, 1720; *Reading Mercury*, 1722; *Chester Courant*, 1733; *Ipswich Journal*, 1737; *Birmingham Gazette*, 1741; *Bath Journal*, 1742; *Derby Mercury*, 1742; all of which have a large circulation, and are highly respectable journals. Besides these there are not more than a dozen that date back earlier than the commencement of the present century.

The oldest paper in Ireland appears to be the *Belfast News-Letter*, which was commenced the 1st of September, 1737. Next to this in antiquity rank the *Limerick Chronicle*, 1744; the Dublin papers, the *News-Letter*, and *Freeman's Journal*, 1765; *Waterford Chronicle*, 1766; *Dublin Evening Post*, 1774. All the other papers are of modern origin.

In Scotland, the *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh, professes to be the oldest existing paper, dating from 1660, but this is not quite correct. The paper at present published under that name is not the original *Mercurius Caledonius*, and was only commenced in 1720, so that it has many seniors—for instance, the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 1705. Out of Edinburgh, the oldest papers are the *Aberdeen Journal*, January 1748; *Glasgow Courier*, 1st September, 1791; and *Kelso Mail*, 1796.

The following table contains a list of the number and circulation of newspapers published in each county of the United Kingdom, in the year 1839, with the population of each county at the last census in 1831; but as the circulation of the several papers is not wholly confined to the counties in which they are published, no important inferences can be drawn from a comparison of it with the number of the population.

Number and Circulation of Newspapers in each County, January, 1840.

Counties.	Population in 1831.	No.	Circulation.	Counties.	Population in 1831.	No.	Circulation.
ENGLAND.				SCOTLAND.			
Bedford . . .	95,483	1	24,125	Aberdeen . . .	177,651	3	262,000
Berks . . .	145,389	4	250,300	Ayr . . .	145,055	4	153,750
Bucks . . .	146,529	4	97,750	Caithness . . .	34,529	2	40,500
Cambridge . . .	143,955	4	215,190	Dumfries . . .	73,770	4	230,000
Chester . . .	334,391	6	315,874	Edinburgh . . .	219,592	15	1,719,375
Cornwall . . .	300,988	5	207,626	Elgin . . .	34,231	2	34,500
Cumberland . . .	169,681	5	253,280	Fife . . .	128,839	2	71,000
Derby . . .	237,170	5	202,800	Forfar . . .	139,606	7	236,985
Devon . . .	494,478	12	624,175	Haddington . . .	36,145	2	1,052
Dorset . . .	159,252	3	181,500	Inverness . . .	94,797	3	121,200
Durham . . .	253,910	7	368,050	Lanark . . .	316,819	13	1,119,905
Essex . . .	317,507	5	301,350	Perth . . .	142,894	4	118,780
Gloucester . . .	387,019	14	897,000	Renfrew . . .	133,443	2	95,500
Hants . . .	314,280	6	379,000	Roxburgh . . .	43,663	2	77,000
Hereford . . .	111,211	3	209,100	Shetland† . . .	29,392	1	10,550
Hertford . . .	143,341	2	81,000	Stirling . . .	72,621	2	84,500
Huntingdon . . .	53,192	1*	54,000				
Kent . . .	479,155	15	458,975	IRELAND.			
Lancaster . . .	1,336,854	27†	3,042,888	CONNAUGHT.			
Leicester . . .	197,003	6	206,500	Galway . . .	414,684	4	39,000
Lincoln . . .	317,465	5	572,025	Mayo . . .	366,328	4	101,000
Monmouth . . .	98,130	2	138,500	Roscommon . . .	249,613	2	14,667
Norfolk . . .	390,054	2	274,500	Sligo . . .	171,765	2	26,575
Northampton . . .	179,336	2	185,000	MUNSTER.			
Northumberland . . .	222,912	7	785,000	Clare . . .	258,322	1	9,500
Nottingham . . .	225,327	4	258,000	Cork . . .	810,732	4	495,500
Oxford . . .	152,156	3	251,500	Kerry . . .	263,126	2	22,750
Salop . . .	222,938	5	300,000	Limerick . . .	315,355	3	253,525
Somerset . . .	404,200	9	342,550	Tipperary . . .	402,563	4	115,900
Stafford . . .	410,512	5	443,575	Waterford . . .	177,054	4	103,850
Suffolk . . .	296,317	6	368,000	ULSTER.			
Surrey . . .	486,334	1	26,000	Antrim . . .	325,615	11	658,400
Sussex . . .	272,340	7	396,025	Donegal . . .	289,149	2	15,730
Warwick . . .	336,610	9	896,500	Down . . .	353,012	4	227,400
Westmoreland . . .	55,041	2	60,000	Fermanagh . . .	149,763	3	27,900
Wilts . . .	240,156	4	272,500	Londonderry . . .	222,012	3	155,000
Worcester . . .	211,365	6	424,175	Mouaghan . . .	195,536	1	17,500
York . . .	1,335,997	29	4,236,713	LEINSTER.			
WALES.				Carlow . . .	81,988	3	33,350
Brecon . . .	47,763	1	35,000	Dublin . . .	380,167	23	3,153,481
Carmarthen . . .	100,655	2	77,000	Kilkenny . . .	193,686	2	50,000
Carnarvon . . .	65,573	2	60,400	Longford . . .	112,558	1	8,000
Flint . . .	60,012	1	6,000	Louth . . .	124,846	3	62,362
Glamorgan . . .	126,612	2	136,500	Queen's County . . .	145,851	1	37,900
Merioneth . . .	35,609	1	20,000	Westmeath . . .	136,872	2	14,944
				Wexford . . .	182,713	2	65,500

* This paper, though called the "Huntingdon Gazette," is published in Cambridge-shire.

† Exclusive of the "Anti-Corn Law Circular," with 90,925 stamps.

‡ Published in London, but now discontinued.

We cannot at present enter further into the statistics of the Provincial press, as this would carry us too much into detail. Suffice it therefore to observe, that in every county in England newspapers are printed, with two exceptions, *viz.*, Huntingdon and Rutland; the small size and population of which, with the unimportance of their chief towns, will account for the deficiency. The circumstance of there being only one paper* published in Surrey, is owing to its proximity to London, which enables it to receive intelligence without delay from the metropolitan papers. In Wales, six counties, *viz.*, Anglesea, Cardigan, Denbigh, Montgomery, Pembroke, and Radnor, publish no papers. In Scotland, 15 out of the thirty-three counties publish no papers; *viz.*, Argyle, Banff, Berwick, Bute, Clackmannan, Dumbarton, Kincardine, Kinross, Kirkcudbright, Linlithgow, Nairn, Peebles, Ross, Selkirk, and Sutherland. In Ireland, 8 out of the thirty-two counties publish none; *viz.*, Leitrim, Tyrone, Cavan, Armagh, Kildare, Meath, King's County, and Wicklow.

In England there are no daily papers published out of London, and only in Liverpool and Manchester do papers appear more frequently than once a week. In Scotland and Ireland, on the contrary, at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, and Kelso; Dublin, Belfast, Ennis, Clonmel, Galway, Cork, Drogheda, Tralee, Kilkenny, Limerick, Mayo, Newry, Tipperary, Waterford, and Wexford, many papers appear two and three times a week.

Out of all the provincial papers of the United Kingdom, there are not more than six or eight which abstain from political discussion; and these exceptions are, for the most part, sheets exclusively devoted to commercial matters.

In the Channel Islands some very respectable papers are published; the principal of which, in Jersey and Guernsey, appear twice a week. There are 4 papers in Guernsey, 9 in Jersey, and 5 in the Isle of Man; all unstamped, and free from taxation.

It would be foreign to our present purpose to notice the different Acts of Parliament which have been passed to regulate the stamp and advertisement duties, the laws of libel, and other matters of fiscal and judicial regulation in Great Britain; our object in this article is principally to give a *résumé*, or passing glance at the Periodical Literature of the different countries of the globe. We shall therefore pass on to that of France.

France.—The origin of Journalism in France has been generally, but erroneously, attributed to a physician named Theophrastus Renaudot, who, in the year 1631, first collected news in fugitive sheets, for the purpose of amusing his patients. He obtained an exclusive privilege for this kind of publication, in 1634-5. But as far back as 1605, under Henri IV., a journal, called the *Mercure de France*, appeared regularly, and was published by Richer, brothers, booksellers, of Paris. They carried it on till 1635, when the above-mentioned Dr. Renaudot took it up, and carried it on till 1644. Messrs. Freselin and La Brière continued it till 1672; and it then assumed the name of *Mercure Galant*, which it retained until 1710, when it was called the *Garde Meuble du Par-nasse*. In 1714 it resumed its old name of *Mercure de France*; and in 1716 took that of *Nouveau Mercure*; but in 1721 resumed once more its original appellation, and retained it till the Revolution. It forms a collection of nearly 1,000 volumes, and is more what is now

* This paper is now discontinued.

known by the name of a magazine or literary periodical, than a political paper. It contained recitals of curious circumstances and events occurring in all parts of the world.*

Until the Revolution, the newspapers of France were so completely controlled or guided by the Government, that nothing worthy of observation appears in the monotonous character which they present. The total number of journals and periodicals in Paris, in 1779, was 35.

The number of journals published there immediately before the Revolution was 169, of which 17 were political, and 152 of a literary, scientific, or religious character. The number of provincial journals at that date was between 70 and 80.

The proprietors of newspapers in France are obliged by law to deposit a sum as "caution money," equal to the maximum penalty to which they would become liable by an infringement of the laws of the press; and a journal is not allowed to re-appear, subsequent to any penalty, until this sum has been replaced. Imprisonment for various terms is superadded in all cases of infringement of the law.

Paris, with a population of about 1,000,000, has more than 27 daily papers, the average sale of which exceeds 90,000 copies per diem; while London, with a population of more than 1,500,000, has only 9 daily papers, with a sale of about 45,000 per diem. This difference may, in some measure, be attributable to the greater number of weekly and semi-weekly newspapers in London; but perhaps still more to the greater size of the English newspapers, and to the more comprehensive nature of their contents.

In 1822 there were 86 journals published in the capital; in the beginning of 1827, the number had increased to 162. In 1829, there were printed in Paris 11 daily newspapers, of which upwards of 60,000 copies were circulated. The number of literary and scientific papers printed daily, was 11; and there were also 6 daily papers, which contained only advertisements; so that the total number of papers in Paris at that period was 28. Besides these, there were 32 periodicals which appeared at different periods, from twice a week to once a month.

The following is a view of the newspapers published in France in 1832:—

Daily Newspapers in Paris	34	} 343
Other Journals in Paris	136	
Newspapers out of Paris	173	

Of the provincial newspapers, 30 were published once a week; 46 twice a week; 36 three times a week; 12 every other day; 1 four times a week; 1 five times a week; 9 six times a week; 10 daily; and 28 at periods not stated.

The total number of periodical journals published in France in 1837, was estimated at 776; of which 326 belonged to Paris. From an estimate made in 1838 it appeared, that of the departmental journals 52 were without any political opinion (a thing very rare in Great Britain), 40 supported the government, 47 were opposition, 25 were legitimist, and 4 or 5 were doctrinaire.

The following facts as to the circulation of French newspapers are abstracted from official accounts, published by the post-office.

* Dictionnaire Historique de Paris et ses Environs, par Hurtant et Magny, 4 vols. 8vo., 1779, vol. iii., p. 666.

The conveyance of journals and printed books rose gradually from 1830, when they were 39,946,875,—of which 32,334,280 were sent from Paris,—to 1833, when they amounted to 50,853,351,—of which 39,255,875 were sent from Paris. But in 1834, they fell again to 49,286,000; increased slightly in 1835; but in 1836, were again reduced to 46,250,030. The diminution was principally in the departmental journals, which from 11,157,000 in 1834, sunk in 1836, to 7,844,490. In 1838, the total number amounted to 48,211,150; of which 38,260,110 were issued from Paris, 9,269,090 from the departments, and 681,950 circulated within the post-office district in which they were published. The average daily number thus circulated by post was 109,443 in 1830, and 132,086 in 1838. In 1821, it was only 76,240. This will be more distinctly shewn in the following table.

Journals, Periodicals and Printed Works of all kinds, sent by the Post in France.

Years.	Sent from Paris.	Issued from the Departments.	Circulated in the same rural Post District in which they were published.	Total.	Daily Average.
1821	23,209,773	4,618,061	..	27,827,834	76,240
1830	32,334,280	7,422,540	190,050	39,946,875	109,443
1831	36,499,000	8,883,425	324,142	45,706,567	125,724
1832	36,928,650	10,117,025	352,216	47,397,891	129,857
1833	39,255,875	11,170,925	426,551	50,853,351	139,320
1834	37,641,000	11,157,000	435,000	49,286,000	136,905
1835	38,778,675	10,093,250	433,750	49,305,675	136,960
1836	37,871,190	7,844,490	534,350	46,250,030	126,712
1837	40,535,247	9,193,048	643,000	50,376,295	138,017
1838	38,260,110	9,269,090	681,950	48,211,150	132,086

From a careful review of *Bottin's Almanach du Commerce*, for January 1840, we arrive at the following details of the Parisian and Provincial press.

Paris Daily Papers.

Political morning journals	20	130
Literary and judicial ditto	9	
Political evening journals	3	
Journals of various kinds, published weekly, or at shorter intervals than once a month . .	70	
Commercial and industrial journals, advertising sheets, price currents, &c.	28	

Besides the above, the following monthly journals are published:—

Devoted to Bibliography and Typography . .	4	142
„ Jurisprudence and Administration . .	36	
„ Religion	7	
„ Freemasonry	1	
„ Military Art	6	
„ Medicine	14	
„ Music	6	
„ Fashion	5	
„ Education	12	
„ Science	12	
„ Literature	12	
„ Rural Economy	15	
„ Commerce and Industry	12	

The following table of the provincial journals is probably somewhat under the real number, as it is not the object of the publication from which the estimate is made to pay any peculiar degree of attention to obtaining correct returns of all the journals published; and there are several towns whence no return has been made of the journals.

French Provincial Papers, in December 1840.

Departments.		Population.	Political Journals.	Advertising Journals, &c.	Departments.		Population.	Political Journals.	Advertising Journals, &c.
1	Ain	346,188	3	2	46	Lot-et-Garonne .	346,400	2	.
2	Aisne	527,095	9	1	47	Lozère	141,733	1	.
3	Allier	309,270	3	.	48	Maine-et-Loire .	477,270	6	2
4	Alpes (Basses) .	159,045	1	1	49	Manche	594,382	8	3
5	Alpes (Hautes) .	131,162	1	1	50	Marne	345,245	4	4
6	Ardèche	353,752	2	.	51	Marne (Haute) .	255,969	2	4
7	Ardennes	306,861	3	.	52	Mayenne	361,765	1	1
8	Ariège	260,536	.	1	53	Meurthe	424,366	4	2
9	Aube	253,870	3	2	54	Meuse	317,701	4	2
10	Aude	281,088	1	1	55	Morbihan	449,743	2	2
11	Aveyron	370,951	2	.	56	Moselle	427,250	3	2
12	Bouches-du-Rhône	362,325	10	1	57	Nièvre	297,550	2	2
13	Calvados	501,775	9	6	58	Nord	1,026,417	20	5
14	Cantal	262,117	2	2	59	Oise	398,641	3	3
15	Charente	365,126	3	.	60	Orne	443,688	1	2
16	„ Inférieure	449,649	5	2	61	Pas de Calais .	664,654	12	2
17	Cher	276,853	4	2	62	Puy-de-Dôme .	589,438	6	1
18	Corrèze	302,433	6	.	63	Pyrénées (Basses)	446,393	5	.
19	Corse	207,889	2	1	64	„ (Hautes)	244,170	1	.
20	Côte-d'Or	385,624	5	1	65	„ Orientales	164,325	1	1
21	Côtes-du-Nord .	605,563	4	1	66	Rhin (Bas) . .	561,859	4	2
22	Creuse	276,234	3	1	67	„ (Haut) . . .	447,019	4	4
23	Dordogne	487,502	5	2	68	Rhône	482,024	9	3
24	Doubs	276,274	4	2	69	Saône (Haute) .	343,298	1	2
25	Drôme	305,499	4	1	70	Saône-et-Loire .	538,507	3	2
26	Eure	424,762	4	2	71	Sarthe	466,888	2	1
27	Eure-et-Loir . .	235,058	3	2	72	Seine (Paris) . .	1,106,691	.	.
28	Finistère	546,955	2	2	73	Seine-et-Marne .	325,881	3	5
29	Gard	366,259	4	2	74	Seine-et-Oise . .	449,582	2	4
30	Garonne-Haute .	454,727	5	3	75	Seine-Inférieure .	720,525	24	10
31	Gers	312,882	4	1	76	Sèvres (Deux) .	304,105	4	1
32	Gironde	555,809	13	6	77	Somme	552,706	7	1
33	Hérault	357,846	1	1	78	Tarn	346,614	2	1
34	Ille-et-Vilaine .	547,249	4	.	79	Tain-et-Garonne .	242,184	1	1
35	Indre	257,350	2	2	80	Var	323,404	4	2
36	Indre-et-Loire .	304,271	2	.	81	Vaucluse	246,071	3	1
37	Isère	573,645	3	1	82	Vendée	341,312	.	1
38	Jura	315,355	2	1	83	Vienne	288,002	1	1
39	Landes	284,918	3	.	84	Vienne (Haute) .	293,011	3	1
40	Loir-et-Cher . .	244,043	3	1	85	Vosges	411,034	3	3
41	Loire	412,497	3	1	86	Yonne	355,237	3	3
42	Loire (Haute) .	295,384	4	1					
43	Loire-Inférieure .	470,768	4	6					
44	Loiret	316,189	3	3					
45	Lot	287,003	2	.					
						Total		336	153
								489	

The second column embraces *Journals des Affiches et Annonces*, commercial sheets, price-currents, bulletins administratifs, scientific and literary journals, &c. Every department publishes also an *Annuaire*, and commercial almanack, which are not included,

The United States of America.—No other country has so many newspapers and periodical journals as the United States. Indeed, the Americans have more newspapers than the whole 233 millions of inhabitants of Europe. Nothing in America is, perhaps, more striking than the rapid and general diffusion of information throughout the community by means of newspapers, the aggregate daily circulation of which is immense, and very far exceeds that of Great Britain. But most of these publications are of an entirely ephemeral character, and very feebly supported; and but few of them possess any considerable literary merit. The first American press was set up at Cambridge, in Massachusetts, as early as 1638; in 1700, there were but 4 presses in the colonies; in 1720, 7 newspapers; in the United States, in 1800, 300 presses; and in 1830, about 1,200, since which time the number has much increased. The first newspaper printed in the British colonies in America, was published at Boston, in 1704, entitled the *Boston News-Letter*, which was continued till 1774. This is supposed to have been the first newspaper published on this continent, though it is believed by some that gazettes were printed at an earlier date at Mexico. The *Boston Gazette*, the second American newspaper, made its appearance in 1719, and the same year, but one day later, the *American Weekly Messenger*, at Philadelphia. The first *New York Gazette* was published in the city of New York, in 1725; the first newspaper in the Carolinas, at Charleston, in 1731-2; the first *Rhode Island Gazette*, in Newport, in 1732; and the first *Virginia Gazette*, at Williamsburg, in 1736. At present there is hardly a petty town in any of the States without its newspaper.

The increase of newspapers in the United States has been a good deal more rapid than in England, in consequence partly, no doubt, of the greater increase of population in the Union; but, more probably, on account of their freedom from taxation, and of the violence of party contests.

In 1775, there were published in the Colonies (now the United States) 37 newspapers; in 1801, 203; in 1810, the number was 308; or, according to some authorities, 364; in 1823, 598; and in 1828, 802. Besides the newspapers, more than 400 periodicals are annually published.

No sufficient data exist for computing, with any degree of accuracy, the number of copies of newspapers at present annually circulated in the United States, but the number does not probably fall far short of 100,000,000, as stated in the American Almanack for 1840. The progressive increase has been computed as follows:—Dr. Miller's estimate in 1801, gives at least 12,000,000 as the number of copies annually circulated. Mr. Thompson, in 1810, computed the number at 22,500,000, and the American Almanack, in 1834, at 70 or 80,000,000. The total number of papers issued in Great Britain and Ireland, in the year 1839, was only 58,516,000, so that making allowance for the difference of population, the number of papers published in the United States, in proportion to the population, is more than twice as great as in England.

A few years ago, it was shewn by a very able writer in *The Scotsman*, that the number of newspapers in the United States of America was, in proportion to the population, five times as great as in the British Isles; and the same writer was of opinion that but for the dispersion

of the inhabitants, the United States would, in all probability, have a proportion of newspapers eight or ten times as great as in the British Isles, an estimate the accuracy of which is confirmed by the fact, that in the State of New York, with a population of 2,000,000, which is equal to one-twelfth of the population of the British Isles, the number of papers is more than two-thirds of the entire number published in the whole of the United Kingdom. We are not, however, to estimate the value or influence of newspaper literature by its quantity alone, but must have regard also to its quality. From the latter, indeed, it derives its chief value; and in whatever degree the Americans may exceed us in the number, they certainly are immeasurably below us in the quality of their newspapers. The American style of writing is florid to excess; journals and periodicals are filled *ad nauseam* with high-flown figures and dazzling ornaments. An American writer cannot describe the simplest affair without a flourish of trumpets; and their periodical press is, almost without an exception, characterized by redundancy of expression, turgidity of diction, and an extravagance of style and sentiment.

From the immense number of newspapers in the United States, it results that the number of subscribers to each is limited, 2,000 being considered a respectable list; and therefore no single paper is able to unite the talent of many able men, as is usually the case in France and England.

The annexed table (*see* page 122) exhibits the date at which the first newspaper was printed in the several States, and the number printed in each, at five distinct periods, commencing with the Revolution.

In drawing a comparison between the newspapers of the three freest countries, France, England, and the United States, we find that those of the last country are the most numerous, while some of the French papers have the largest subscription; and the whole establishment of a first-rate London paper is the most complete. The daily papers of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and the other principal towns in the United States, cost about two guineas per annum; the Paris daily papers, from 34s. to 67s. per annum; the London daily papers, about 6*l.* 10*s.* or 7*l.* per annum.

In the United States there were 27 daily papers published in 1810; 50 in 1830, two-thirds of which were supposed to be yielding fair profits; 90 in 1834; and there are now, probably, about 100 in the different States, 22 of which are issued in the State of New York.

As there is no duty on advertisements, advertising is carried on to a large extent in the American papers, to the great benefit of trade. The 13 New York daily papers contain more advertisements than all the newspapers of England and Ireland. One of the ablest of the North American newspapers, the *New York Courier and Enquirer*, frequently contains above 1,200 advertisements; while the *Times*, one of our largest advertising journals, scarcely ever contains more than 800.*

* Within the last few weeks, the *Times* has commenced a system of publishing, at uncertain intervals, a quadruple sheet. In that of the 5th June, there were as many as 1,493 advertisements; and in two others, subsequently published, there was about the same number.

STATES.	First Newspaper Established.	Number of Newspapers.*				
		1775	1810	1828	1834	1839
Maine	1786	..	8	29	51	41
New Hampshire . . .	1756	1	12	17	27	25
Vermont	1781	..	14	21	26	31
Massachusetts . . .	1704	7	24†	78	168	124
Rhode Island . . .	1732	2	7	14	16	14
Connecticut	1755	4	11	33	31	31
New York	1725	4	66	161	267	274
New Jersey	1777	..	8	22	35	39
Pennsylvania . . .	1719	9	71	185	220	253
Delaware	1761	..	2	4	4	3
Maryland	1728	2	21	37	32	48
Virginia	1736	2	23	34	40	52
North Carolina . .	1755	2	10	20	22	30
South „	1731	3	10	16	19	20
Georgia	1763	1	13	18	29	33
Alabama . . . . .	..	..	..	10	15	34
Mississippi . . . .	..	..	4	6	13	36
Louisiana . . . . .	..	..	10	9	31	26
Tennessee	1791	..	6	8	26	50
Kentucky	1786	..	17	23	25	31
Ohio	1795	..	14	66	140	164
Indiana	1809	..	1	17	25	69
Illinois . . . . .	..	..	..	4	15	33
Missouri . . . . .	..	..	1	5	15	25
District of Columbia	1800	..	6	9	9	16
Florida Territory .	..	..	..	2	5	9
Mackinnon „ . . .	..	..	..	1	2	..
Arkansas „ . . .	..	..	..	1	2	4
Iowa „ . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wisconsin „ . . .	..	..	..	..	..	5
Michigan „ . . .	..	..	..	1	7	31
Total . . . . .	..	37	359	851	1,272	1,555

British North American Colonies.—Canada.—Printing was introduced into Canada soon after the organization of the government under the English, and the first newspaper published in that country was the *Quebec Gazette*, which appeared in January 1765. The *Montreal Gazette*, the second paper, was first published in 1775. In 1810, there were 5 newspapers in Lower Canada, and one in Upper Canada, at York, now called Toronto. In 1830, there were 51 papers in the British North American possessions.

In Lower Canada there were published at Quebec, 3 semi-weekly, and 1 weekly; at Three Rivers, 1 weekly; at Montreal, 5 semi-weekly, and 2 weekly; and at Stanstead, 1 weekly. In Upper Canada, 6 at York

* The column for 1828 includes other periodicals, as well as newspapers; the latter may be stated at 802. The same remark applies to the column for 1839, which is taken from returns made to the United States' post-office department, of the number of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals, published in the United States on the 1st of July, 1839; the numbers in the column for 1834, assigned to Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, are chiefly by estimate, the exact numbers not having been ascertained. The estimate is stated to have been probably below the real numbers.

† According to some authorities 34.

or Toronto, 5 at Kingston; 3 at Niagara; 2 at Brockville; and 1 each at Hamilton, Perth, and St. Catherine's; in all, 19. In 1834, this number had increased to 34. At present, with a population of 400,000, there are about 28 newspapers in the province.

The British population of Lower Canada, although numerically inferior to the French, as 1 to 4, support treble the number of newspapers. The census of 1831 gave the entire population as 511,917. Out of this number, the proportion of French inhabitants may be estimated at 400,000, who are contented with 3 newspapers, not one of which is daily, but 2 tri-weekly, and 1 weekly. The British in Lower Canada have 8 newspapers, besides monthly periodicals, although they perhaps do not exceed 100,000 in number. The British have also literary societies, public libraries, museums, &c., while the French have nothing of the same description.

The weekly issues of the British press of Lower Canada are equal to 29,000; those of the French press to 8,000.

This comparison furnishes evidence of the superior intelligence of the British population over the French of Lower Canada, if public journals be taken as a criterion. The supply of this article never exceeds the demand. The comparison between the British and other nations which have established colonies, is the same all over the globe.

The newspapers of Canada call for little comment, they are in general badly printed, and worse edited; and in their typography and arrangement little taste is displayed. The greater proportion of those of Lower Canada are printed partly in French, and partly in English.

Newfoundland.—The island of Newfoundland supports 9 newspapers, of which 7 are published at St. John's, 1 at Harbour Grace, and 1 at Carbonear. Several new papers are announced to appear. In no small community, perhaps, does party feeling run so high as in this island; and hence arises the number of papers, as compared with the population, which, though very fluctuating, was estimated in 1837 at 75,000. The oldest of the existing papers is the *Royal Gazette*, commenced in 1805. The *Public Ledger* was started in 1822; all the others are of recent origin, for in the year 1830, there were but four papers published in the island. Two of the papers appear twice a week, and the others are issued weekly.

Bermuda.—Early in 1784, a printing-office was established in Bermuda, by J. Stockdale, brother to the late printer to the House of Commons, who in July of that year issued the first paper ever printed in Bermuda, entitled the *Bermuda Gazette*. It passed into various hands, and was continued for a long period. There are now two weekly papers issued here; and since Colonel Reid has been the governor of the island, they have contained many interesting reports and papers connected with "The Theory of Storms."

Bahamas.—The *Royal Bahama Gazette* was established at Nassau, New Providence, soon after the peace was concluded on the American continent in 1783. The island now supports two newspapers, and both are issued twice a week.

New Brunswick.—Newspapers were not printed in New Brunswick until the year 1783; two or three were then issued from the presses of those printers who, during the war, were with the British army in New York, &c.; but who, when peace was established, left the United States

and settled at St. John's, the chief town. In 1830, there were 7 weekly newspapers in the province; 4 at St. John's, 1 at Fredericton, 1 at St. Andrew's, and 1 at Miramichi. By the close of 1837, there had been added to this number 3 more, *viz.*, 2 at St. John's, and 1 at Woodstock.

In the commencement of the present year the number had considerably increased, there being 9 published at St. John's, 2 at Fredericton, 1 at St. Andrew's, 1 at Miramichi, and 1 at Woodstock. The New Brunswick papers are of a more useful and commercial character than those of the sister province of Nova Scotia, and interfere less with political matters.

Prince Edward's Island.—Eleven years after the introduction of printing into New Brunswick, it found its way into Prince Edward's Island. In 1795 a paper was commenced at Charlotte-town, called the *St. John's Miscellany*. This paper was soon discontinued, and no further newspaper-printing was attempted for ten years afterwards. Since that period there have been several papers started, and two are now published, the oldest of which dates from 1823.

Nova Scotia.—Printing was first introduced into Nova Scotia in 1751, a period of 24 years before it was commenced in Canada; and 33 years before it found its way into New Brunswick. The early prints of this province were of a very inferior description, both in point of merit and workmanship; but as soon as intelligence began to dispel the mists of ignorance and prejudice, literature was viewed in its proper light, and consequently newspapers, as a means of its advancement, became more popular. Soon after the settlement of the town of Halifax, and printing had been introduced, a newspaper was published under the title of the *Halifax Gazette*. It first appeared in January, 1751, and was printed weekly on half a sheet of foolscap paper, by John Busbell. The circulation of the *Gazette* was in a great measure confined to the town, which was then a mere garrison. After a trial of some months, its publication was for a long time suspended, and although afterwards revived, it was not brought out at regular intervals until about the autumn of 1760, which was soon after Busbell died. Anthony Henry commenced the republication of this paper in the following year, and he continued to print it in a very indifferent manner, and with few customers, until 1765, when the British Stamp Act was extended to this colony. It was then issued on a whole sheet, about 18 inches square, but not more than 70 copies were printed weekly, and the subscribers did not amount to that number. A second paper was brought out in 1766, which was carried on for four years. No other papers were published in Nova Scotia until the war commenced. In 1810 we find 3 papers at Halifax; in 1830 the number had increased to 6; 5 published at Halifax, and 1 provincial paper at Pictou. In January, 1838, the number of papers issued in the province was 11; 8 at Halifax, 1 at Lunenburg, 1 at Yarmouth, and 1 at Pictou. A new paper has also been started at Sydney, in the island of Cape Breton.

The rapid communication between Halifax and England, by means of the Cunard mail steamers, has given quite an impetus to newspapers, and called into being several new journals. The number now issued at Halifax is as many as 12, two or three of which are published three times a week; and there are 3 in the country parts of the province. The price of the Halifax and New Brunswick papers is 15s. per

annum, to which is added a postage charge of 2s. 6d. yearly, when sent by mail. Several of the leading papers circulate between 3,000 and 4,000 copies weekly; but 500 or 600 copies is about the average circulation of the country papers.

Honduras.—In the dependency of Honduras, soon after it was settled, a *Gazette* was published, but it does not appear to have been continued for any time. The *Belize Advertiser* was commenced on the 29th of September, 1838, and seems likely to last. A second weekly paper, under the title of the *Honduras Observer*, was commenced on the 25th November, 1840; but there can hardly be room for two papers here. The population of Honduras does not exceed 4,000, but it is a very thriving and wealthy settlement.

Central America.—The newspapers of British Guiana are not numerous, but they are respectably conducted, notwithstanding the strong party feeling which prevails. The first newspaper published here was the *Berbice Royal Gazette*, by Messrs. Schulz and Volkerts, two Dutchmen, which appeared once a week till 1816, when it was published twice a week. In 1831, the union of the colonies of Berbice and Demerara took place, and this paper lost the government patronage, which was transferred to the other seat of government, Georgetown, where 4 papers are now published; 1 semi-weekly, and 3 on alternate days. The oldest of them dates from 1805. The Berbice paper was discontinued in May, 1840, but another paper has since taken its place.

In French Guiana there are also one or two journals published; and at Surinam, two periodical journals. The Demerara papers circulate from 500 to 800 copies each issue. In the republic of Venezuela 4 weekly newspapers appear, all at the capital, Caraccas; and they are very neatly printed and got up. However small this number of publications may seem, it shews that the taste for reading is on the increase, for six years ago not a paper but the *Gazette* was supported. Political questions are now treated in these journals with great freedom and liberality, and appear to have powerful means of diffusion. They circulate from 800 to 1,500 copies each. The population of Caraccas is, according to McCulloch, 23,000.

At Santa Fe de Bogotà, in the republic of Colombia, 4 newspapers are published. The whole republic had, in 1831, 16 political papers. There are 5 in Guatemala, or Central America.

In the Mexican Confederation a vast number of newspapers are published, all of which furnish much important intelligence towards enlarging our statistical knowledge of Central America. In 1831-2, there were as many as 28 papers published in Mexico, 7 of them in the capital; there are now 9, if not more, *daily* papers published there, as well as several in the departments; together with 5 or 6 semi-weekly, and a great many weekly papers. About a dozen journals are published in the new republic of Texas, 2 of which are daily, and the number is on the increase.

South America.—It is asserted that *Gazettes* were printed in South America before the 17th century; and it is not improbable that such was the case in the cities of Mexico and Lima. Dr. Robertson, in his "History of America," mentions his being furnished with the *Gazeta de Mexico*, for the years 1728, 1729, and 1730, printed in quarto.

In the different republics of Chili, Peru, Bolivia, and the Ecuador,

there are a vast number of papers published, respecting which it is extremely difficult to obtain detailed information; but we may state that six are published at Pernambuco; one or two at Bahia; seven or eight at Rio Janeiro, most of them daily; and the same number at Buenos Ayres, one of which, a weekly paper, has been published in English since 1826.

On the western coast there are papers at Valparaiso, Arequipa, Lima, Quito, and Panama; and there are journals published at Cusco, Rosas, Santiago de Chili, and other towns, many of them daily.

In Chili, which received its first printing press from the United States in 1810, 7 Gazettes were published in 1831.

The West India Islands.—There is not an island in the West Indies which has not two or more newspapers.

Jamaica has 10; of which 2 are daily, and the others weekly and semi-weekly. The oldest Kingston paper dates from 1778, although there is one journal on the north side of the island, which was commenced six years earlier.

The Jamaica papers are thus distributed :—

Kingston, daily	2	Spanish Town, semi-weekly . .	1
„ tri-weekly	1	Falmouth, weekly	2
„ weekly	2	„ semi-weekly	1
Montego Bay, semi-weekly . .	1		

The press of Kingston has fluctuated greatly within the last eight or ten years, continual changes having taken place by the discontinuance of old and the establishment of new journals. The newspapers are in general conducted with much ability, and contribute largely to our stock of information regarding the natural productions, statistics, meteorology, &c., of the island; but party spirit, unfortunately, has hitherto run high, and marred the general utility of these publications.

The tax of postage upon newspapers in Jamaica is felt very severely by the proprietors of journals, who are deprived of many subscribers in consequence of their having to charge an additional sum of eight dollars for their papers; as one-half of the whole amount (sixteen dollars per annum) is taken by the post-office for transmitting them to subscribers.

A newspaper was first published at Barbadoes in 1731. There was no other press in the Caribbean Islands for several years subsequent to this period. Barbadoes has now 5 semi-weekly, and 1 tri-weekly newspaper (all of which are published at Bridgetown), in addition to an official weekly Gazette for government notices. The oldest existing paper was commenced about the year 1810 or 1811. It is a singular fact, that two of these papers have been established by the coloured population as their especial organs, one about three years ago, and the other in the present year, and they are supported and conducted entirely by this class. One is edited with much ability by Mr. S. J. Prescod, a gentleman of colour. In Jamaica also one or two of the papers are edited by persons of colour, and espouse the cause and interests of the negro population. Many of the colonial papers are owned by members of the island legislatures.

St. Kitt's, Grenada, Tobago, Antigua, Dominica, and St. Lucia, have each 2 weekly political journals, in addition to the government Gazette in some islands. The oldest paper at St. Kitt's dates from 1813, but a Gazette was published there prior to 1748. The oldest paper at Gre-

nada was commenced as far back as 1742. The oldest Tobago paper has only been established about five years. The oldest paper in Antigua was commenced in 1813, but there was a paper published there in 1748. In Dominica, the oldest appeared in 1825, but the earliest paper in 1765; and in St. Lucia the oldest appeared only in 1837, but there were several journals published previous to that date. St. Vincent has 3 weekly papers, the oldest dating from 1784. At Trinidad there are 2 semi-weekly papers, besides the *Royal Gazette*, which are all of comparatively recent origin, the oldest having only been published fourteen years.

The price of the different West India papers varies considerably, the Kingston daily papers being 1 doubloon (5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*) per annum, while the Spanish Town semi-weekly paper is charged nearly the same price. The Barbadoes papers are 6 or 8 dollars. The Antigua, Dominica, and Grenada papers, cost the same. Those of Trinidad and Tobago 12 dollars; and those of St. Vincent, 3*l.* 5*s.* (currency) per annum.

These newspapers are all creditable publications; they are generally published in the English tongue, except in some few instances of colonies ceded by France, in which they are partially printed in the language of that country.

Of the press of the Danish, French, and Spanish West India Islands, we have less detailed information.

At Guadaloupe there are 3 journals published; and 2 at Martinique; 1 each at St. Thomas's and St. Croix, issued semi-weekly. At St. Domingo and Cuba the press is not very prolific, although at Port-au-Prince a daily paper has been published for some time; and at the Havannah several papers appear.

We will now turn back to the continent of Europe, passing first over the most extensive field of newspaper literature there, *viz.*, the Austrian dominions.

Germany.—In Germany newspapers originated in the “Relations,” as they were termed, which sprung up at Augsburg and Vienna in 1524, at Ratisbon in 1528, at Dillingen in 1569, and at Nuremberg in 1571, and which appeared in the form of printed letters, but without date, place, or number. The first German newspaper in numbered sheets was printed in 1612. In 1833 there were about 305 journals published throughout the extent of the German States. The journals published in Austria, in 1838, literary and political, amounted to 76, of which 22 appeared at Vienna, 25 at Milan, 10 in Lombardy, 7 at Venice, 5 at Verona, and 7 in Galicia and Hungary. In the beginning of 1840 the number of political journals in the empire was 36, *viz.*, 2 at each of the following places:—Vienna, Agram, Pesth, Baden, Presburg, Limburg, Prague, and Venice; and 1 at Inspruck, Brunn, Gratz, Klagenfurth, Leybach, Lintz, Salzburg, Hermanstadt, Troppau, Como, Milan, Cremona, Mantua, Pavia, Verona, Sara, Trieste, Closen-burg, Cronstadt, and Roveredo: 16 of these journals are published in the German language; 11 in Italian; 1 in Illyrian; 5 in Hungarian; 1 in Polish, 1 in Bohemian, and 1 in Wallachian. There are also 96 non-political journals, of which 24 are published at Vienna, 27 at Milan, and 11 at Prague. The periodical press of Germany is about to be regulated by the promulgation of a general law.

The leading paper of Germany is the *Allgemeine Zeitung* (Universal

Gazette) of Augsburg, which was commenced in 1794 by J. G. Cotta, the celebrated bookseller of Tübingen. The place of publication has alternately been changed from Tübingen to Stuttgart, Ulm, and finally to Augsburg. The cost of German papers to subscribers in England varies from 6 to 8 guineas.

Four or five newspapers are published at Hamburg, 2 or 3 at Oldenburg, 2 at Lübeck, 3 at Amsterdam, and 2 each at Haerlem, Rotterdam, and Bremen, which are merely local and commercial papers, and possess very little interest for foreigners, being principally compilations of the news extracted from foreign journals.

In the kingdom of *Hanover* there were, in 1840, only 4 political journals published, *viz.*, 1 at Hanover, 2 at Hildesheim, and 1 at Emden; 4 official papers are also published for the purpose of receiving the notifications and advertisements of the Courts of Law, public and other authorities, and of private individuals, *viz.*, 1 at Hanover, 1 at Lüneburg, 1 at Stade, and 1 at Aurich. Besides these there appear in several towns of the kingdom *Weekly Advertisers*, relating to purposes of a merely local interest.

In the kingdom of the *Netherlands*, in 1826, there were published in the Dutch language 80 daily and weekly papers, and several in French.

There was a *Gazette* published by authority at Brussels as early as 1757, and an *Amsterdam Gazette* before 1760. In 1833 it was stated in a German paper that there were in the whole of Belgium 62 papers, and in Holland 150.

From a list of the Belgian newspapers for January 1841, obtained from an official source, it appears that there were then 75 journals published in the kingdom. Of these 55 are stated to be printed in the French language, and 18 in the Flemish. They were thus distributed; 21 at Brussels, 7 at Ghent, 4 at Liege, 8 at Antwerp, 5 at Bruges, 3 each at Turnhout, Mons, Namur, and Verviers, and the remainder at other small towns. Of these 24 were published daily, *viz.*, 11 at Brussels, 3 each at Ghent and Antwerp, 2 each at Bruges, Namur, and Verviers, and 1 at Mons. The cost of the daily papers varies from 40 to 60 francs, exclusive of postage.

Prussia.—In 1819 there were 516 presses in Prussia; in 1820, 580; in 1825, 693; of periodical publications of various kinds there were 300 at the end of the year 1827, and the number since then has not very largely increased. Bottin's Paris Almanack, in 1834, stated the number of newspapers at 168.

Switzerland.—In 1821, there were 21 journals of various kinds published in Switzerland. In 1824, 11 political papers appeared, of which 7 were in German, 2 in French, and 2 in Italian. In 1829 it was stated that there were 130 presses in Switzerland: Geneva had the greatest number, *viz.*, 18; Zurich 17, Bâle and Aargau 16, Berne and St. Gall 9. The Pays de Vaud published 3 Gazettes in French, and Geneva only 1, but it was the best in Switzerland; the canton of Tessin published 2 Gazettes in Italian, and Zurich 4, in German. The journals which were published in the other cantons were all in German. *La Chronique Suisse* stated in 1825 that 24 newspapers appeared in the course of the week; 9 were conducted by Catholic editors, and 15 by Protestants. This list does not include 5 fortnightly papers and a number of scientific or literary journals. Ten new papers had been started since 1823.

The *Gazette of St. Gall* publishes the following statement, shewing the increase of printing offices and political publications in that country. In 1817 there were in all Switzerland no more than 54 printing-offices, and 16 periodical journals; in 1830 there were 71 printing-offices and 29 journals; and in 1834 there were 93 of the former and 54 of the latter. The number has not since increased, as will be seen by a reference to the following table of the journals published in the Confederation in 1840. The list was made on the 18th of January.

	Canton.	Population.	No. of Journals.
1	Zurich . . .	231,000	5
2	Berne . . .	380,000	8
3	Lucerne . . .	123,000	3
4	Uri . . .	13,000	1
5	Schwitz . . .	38,000	1
6	Unterwald . . .	22,000	.
7	Glaris . . .	30,000	2
8	Zug . . .	15,000	1
9	Fribourg . . .	35,000	.
10	Soleure . . .	63,000	2
11	Bâle-Ville . . .	21,000	2
12	Bâle-Campagne . . .	33,000	2
13	Schaffhausen . . .	32,000	2
14	Appenzell . . .	51,000	2
15	St. Gall . . .	166,000	4
16	Grisons . . .	96,000	3
17	Argovie . . .	186,000	3
18	Thurgovie . . .	84,000	1
19	Tessin . . .	109,000	2
20	Vaud . . .	183,000	2
21	Valais . . .	76,000	2
22	Neuchâtel . . .	57,000	1
23	Genève . . .	56,000	2
	Total . .	2,080,000	51*

Russia.—During a long time all the literary movements of the Russian empire were concentrated in St. Petersburg and Moscow. The provinces contented themselves with reading the productions of those two capitals, but without producing anything themselves. Within the last 3 or 4 years this order of things has been greatly changed. The total number of journals published in Russia, in 1820, according to the *Encyclopædia Londonensis*, was 33. In 1829 the number had increased to 73. The periodical literature in 1833 consisted of 45 journals and newspapers, of which 25 were published in St. Petersburg, 11 in Moscow, 3 in Odessa, 2 in Revel, 3 in Kasan, and 1 in Joursloff; 13 of the non-political publications were devoted to the *Belles Lettres*, and the remaining 27 of the same class to various departments of science. 19 were published under the direction and at the expense of government authorities, *viz.*, 12 daily, and 7 monthly publications. The remainder, consisting of 10 daily publications, and 16 others at various intervals, were private undertakings; some prosecuted by learned

* Or 1 journal to every 40,784 inhabitants.

societies, and others by individuals. To this list must be added 41 periodical works in foreign languages; of which 23 were in German, 5 in French, 4 in Laplandish, 3 in Polish, 2 in English, 1 in Italian, and 3 in other languages.

In 1839 there were about 154 papers and periodical publications. The principal centres whence these emanate, are St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kieff, Kasan, Dorpat, Jaroslaw, Odessa, Wilna, Archangel, Witepsk, Wladimir, Vologda, Jitomir, Woronesk, Viatka, Grodno, Ekaterinoslaw, Kaluga, Rastroma, Minsk, Mittau, Novogorod, &c. These towns consequently are considered as the centres of the intellectual movement in Russia.

The earliest periodical work which appeared in Russia was the Petersburg newspaper, which is still published by the Imperial Academy of the Arts and Sciences. It first came out in Moscow in the year 1703; from 1711 it was published alternately in that city and St. Petersburg, and since 1728 it has invariably been published at the latter place.

The *Gazette* of St. Petersburg is the best of the Russian papers, and circulates 6,000 daily; the *Northern Bee* 3,600, and the other papers from 1,000 to 2,000. The *Moscow Gazette* circulates 8,000 or 9,000, and comes out twice a week.

The influence of the periodical press in Russia is immense, and almost incredible; public opinion is entirely guided by its decisions, particularly in the provinces.

Poland.—In 1827 it was estimated that Russia had gained by the successive dismemberments of Poland, a population of 17,680,000 native Poles, and 5,330,000 Germans and Jews. To meet the literary wants of this population there were only 15 journals, 8 of which were published at Warsaw*, and 7 in the different cities of the kingdom. Courland, Livonia, and Esthonia, contained a population of 1,600,000 inhabitants, of whom only 200,000 were Germans; and yet for these Germans there were 14 journals in their native language, while nearly 18,000,000 of Poles inhabiting so many different provinces had not more than 15 journals. For the Livonians and Esthonians there were 4 journals.

In Independent Poland in 1830, with a population of 107,934, the number of journals published was 5; in Russian Poland, with a population of 15,377,389,—39; in Prussian Poland, with a population of 1,984,124,—1; and in Austrian Poland, with a population of 4,226,969,—4; being 49 journals for a population of 21,696,416.

In Warsaw literature continues to be on the decline. The four daily journals are principally used as vehicles for advertisements; and as politics are very cautiously introduced, they generally fill up what is left, after the daily news and official notices, with tales and anecdotes. In addition to the daily papers there are 10 or 12 small journals, most of which have their particular circle.

Denmark.—The first journal printed in Denmark was in the year 1644. This was soon followed by several others, one of which was in verse! In 1828, 80 periodical works, daily, weekly, monthly, and

* Another authority states that there were 14 journals and 5 political papers published in Warsaw in 1827.

quarterly, were published in this country, 70 of which were in the Danish language; 23 were devoted to politics, and 25 to the sciences.

At the present time there appear about 54 daily and weekly publications, more than half of which are published in Copenhagen; and there are also 30 monthly and other periodical works, the greater part of which are published in the capital. To their late monarch, Frederick VI., the Danes are indebted for the liberty of the press among other privileges.

Norway and Sweden.—The supply of newspapers in Norway is abundant, as the press in that country is perfectly free, and no tax of any kind is levied on it. Christiania alone boasts of not less than 8 journals, which are very impartially conducted, and said to be much read. There are about 21 or 22 in the whole kingdom; “and yet,” says Mr. Bremner, in his *Excursions in Denmark, Norway, &c.*, “in the country districts, and in the provincial towns, you might as well ask for a bunch of fresh grapes as for the last newspaper; and all the time we were in Christiania, we did not see a journal in any one’s hand at the hotel, or in any other public place.” The most extensive circulation appears to be enjoyed by a daily paper called the *Morgenblad*, published at Christiania, which has been established 10 or 12 years, and the cost of which, sent by post, is 7 dollars, or 28s. sterling yearly.

In 1832, there were about 50 newspapers published in the whole of Sweden, 1 literary gazette, and several magazines. In Sweden, the press is under a very strict censorship, while in the sister kingdom it is quite free. This is a strange anomaly, that one paper under the same government should be permitted to publish with impunity, articles which would inevitably entail suppression of the journal, fine, and imprisonment, if published in another division of the country.

Finland.—In 1800, there was only 1 political and literary journal published in Finland, the *Abo Gazette*, which was commenced in 1771. In 1829, there were several periodical papers conducted with great talent, and possessing rather an extensive circulation. In 1839, there were 13 periodical publications existing; 7 of which appeared at Helsingfors, the capital of Finland, 2 at Abo, and 1 each at the towns of Wasa, Wybourg, Borgo, and Uleaborg. 9 of these journals are in the Swedish, and 4 in the Finnish language.

Southern Europe.—Spain.—The earliest Spanish newspaper began to be published about the commencement of the 18th century. In 1800, although there were 21 learned, and 61 economical societies in Spain, only two political newspapers were published, the *Madrid* and *Barcelona Gazettes*; and even now how few and how wretched are the Spanish newspapers! Taking the number of newspapers sold in every country as a criterion of the state of intellectual activity possessed by its inhabitants, Spain ranks lowest among the European states, having had but a few years ago, not more than 12 newspapers for a population of 12,000,000.

In the year 1834, there were in the whole extent of the kingdom, 98 newspapers, of which 21 disappeared in the course of the year. The 77 political journals that survived were thus divided: 51 had an official character, 3 were purely ministerial, and 23 belonged to various shades

of opinion. These latter papers cannot, to speak properly, be classed in a definite manner, for they frequently change their editors at a moment's notice, and their character is as fugitive and changeable as events.

The Madrid press, at the close of 1839, consisted of 8 daily papers, and 1 semi-weekly, besides a few literary papers. The official acts of the government are published in the *Gazette* (daily) at Madrid, and in an official bulletin in each of the 49 provinces into which the monarchy is divided. The cost of the different papers varies from 1*d.* to 6*d.* per copy.

Portugal.—The history of the Portuguese press may be told in a few words. There is no country in which literature has declined so rapidly within the last few years, as in Portugal. The freedom of the press in that country, and with it the unbridled expression of politics, have failed to produce their ordinary effects. Literature, instead of being encouraged, has suffered incalculable injury; for although there are upwards of 20 Portuguese newspapers and daily journals, we find them entirely engrossed with political and extraneous matters. In the capital, there are published about a dozen newspapers, two-thirds of which are daily. They are very small-sized journals, and charged about 9 dollars per annum. From a statistical table published in the *Diário do Governo*, in April 1840, it appears that by a recent census, the population of Portugal and Algarve does not exceed 3,224,474 souls, so that the average of newspapers is one for every 161,223 inhabitants. A paper is published at the Azores islands.

Italy.—The whole number of journals in Italy, including all periodicals, political, literary and scientific, exceeds 200. Few of the existing papers date back farther than the commencement of the present century. The greatest proportion of them are devoted to commercial, literary, and purely local matters, and few attempt to meddle with politics. In 1827, 3 journals appeared at Naples.

In Sicily there are also several respectable journals published, but our information does not permit us to give any authentic particulars respecting them.

Greece.—The Greeks have had, since 1821, political journals in their own language. There are 4 journals at Athens, 1 at Napoli, 2 at Hydra, and 2 at Missolonghi. Nothing deserving the title of a press exists in the Ionian Islands. The constitution of these islands enacts, that there shall be only a government press, and does not allow any other printing office to be established without the license of government, which has never yet been granted, during the 23 years of British protection. The *Government Gazette* of Corfu is therefore the only journal which appears in these States; one half of this paper is printed in Italian, and the other in the Romaic Greek; it has been published now 10 or 11 years, and the price is 15*s.* 2*d.* per annum.

The press in *Malta* is continually changing, from the discontinuance of old, and the establishment of new journals. There are now about a dozen periodicals published, most of them weekly, and in English. At *Gibraltar*, a government paper of a very diminutive size is published daily.

Turkey.—It is stated by some authorities, that a newspaper or *Gazette* was published at Constantinople as early as 1797, but this statement is very questionable.

The *Moniteur Ottoman*, a weekly official journal, published in French, under the sanction of the Sultan, was commenced at Constantinople in 1831-2; but after being kept up at great expense and to little purpose, for about 6 years, it died of inanition in 1839. Another weekly paper in French, but not official, was established on its ruins, under the title of the *Journal de Constantinople*, which had a very brief existence.

The journals published at Constantinople, in January 1841, were the *Tagrim Vakai*, a government paper, which is rather a register of official acts, than a record of news. It is published in classical Turkish, with translations into modern Greek and Armenian, at irregular periods, about every fortnight, and is edited by Sami Effendi. It has as many as 4,000 subscribers.

The *Djêrêdêi Havadis*, in vulgar Turkish, edited by Mr. W. N. Churchill, a new creation, containing all the news that it suits the Porte to have published, besides general information on European subjects, &c., is published every 10 days, and 500 copies of it are printed. An Armenian paper of the same nature has also just been commenced, edited by Mr. Oscanian, who was educated in America. It has from 200 to 300 subscribers. All the papers published in Constantinople are under a censorship.

At *Smyrna* there are 3 or 4 French papers, and one Armenian journal. Among the rest, an English paper under the title of the *Manzari Shark*, has been recently started by Mr. Churchill, who is editor and proprietor. He publishes it there, because it would not be permitted to be printed at Constantinople.

Africa.—In the whole extent of Africa there are about 14 journals published. One has appeared at Algiers regularly since its possession by the French in 1830. Two are published on the western coast, at the American colony of Liberia. An attempt was made on the 21st March 1838, to start a newspaper at Tripoli, by Sir Grenville Temple, and Mr. J. Richardson, the present editor of the *Malta Times*, but after the first number it was suppressed by the Bey, in consequence of some very injudicious remarks which it contained upon the Mahomedan religion.

Cape of Good Hope.—Although the freedom of the press was only established in this colony in 1829, yet there are now 11 political newspapers, 8 at Cape Town, and 3 at Graham's Town, for the Eastern district. The first newspaper, the *South African Commercial Advertiser*, was established on 7th January, 1824. It was, however, suppressed in the May following, recommenced in August of the ensuing year, again summarily suppressed in March 1827, since which period it has been re-established, and has continued to flourish.

The Cape Town newspapers are printed half in English and half in Dutch. The inhabitants do not yet support a daily paper; the Cape Town journals are therefore mostly published twice a week. There is a penny stamp affixed to the journals when transmitted inland, or from the Colony, but no duty on advertisements.

Egypt.—The Pacha of Egypt, among his other improvements, commenced, in the close of 1829, a newspaper at Boulaq, the port of Cairo, which was printed twice a week in Turkish and Arabic, in alternate columns, under the title of "*News from Egypt*." The *Moniteur Egyptien* was afterwards established at Alexandria, but both are now discontinued.

The Island of *Bourbon*, which was settled in 1672 by the French, has two newspapers; and there are also two journals and an official Gazette, published at the *Mauritius*, the oldest of which was commenced in 1773. They appear three times a week.

Asia.—Persia.—An official Gazette, the first publication of the kind ever undertaken in Persia, was established on the 1st of January 1838, appearing twice a week at Teheran the capital. It is lithographed, the Persian metropolis not yet boasting of a letter-press printer. A second paper, called the *Afton Aluntab*, was commenced in Persia last year.

India.—The state of the press in India is very different from what it was some few years ago. There is not perhaps a much greater number of papers published, nor is the aggregate circulation of the whole very much above the sum total of the sale, when controversy ran high between the partisans of government and the friends of a free press and colonization. But there is a wide difference in the tone of the journals, and their contents indicate a higher degree of intelligence, and the possession of a much better knowledge of the affairs of the country. Newspapers are now as common in the British dominions abroad, as in England, and in British India 6 or 8 Gazettes are now published in the Bengalee language. One of the most striking features of the modern history of Hindostan, and the most unflinching guarantee of its improvement, is the diffusion of knowledge by the establishment of periodicals, and the promulgation of the Sacred Writings in the native dialects. There was great truth in Lord Wm. Bentinck's assertion, that the panacea for the evils, both moral and physical, endured by the natives, is "knowledge, knowledge, knowledge!"

In 1814, there existed but two papers at Calcutta besides the government Gazette; in 1826, 3 more had been added; and in 1833, there were as many as 33 different publications. The newspapers at the present time are, English daily papers, 6; tri-weekly, 3, and weekly, 8; native weekly papers 9.

The first Calcutta newspaper was *Hicking's Gazette*, which was commenced on the 29th January, 1781. The *Calcutta Gazette, or Oriental Advertiser*, appears to have been the second journal published in British India. It is a small official sheet, commenced on the 4th March 1784. The Calcutta daily papers now assimilate very closely to those published in London. The *Englishman* has a daily circulation of 1,300 to 1,400 subscribers, and is said to yield a profit of 5,000*l.* a year; the cost of printing and conducting it being about 8,000*l.*

The *Bengal Hurkaru* (or Messenger), the oldest and leading journal of India, was originally established as a *weekly* newspaper in January 1795. The first number of the daily *Hurkaru*, being likewise the first daily paper ever published in India, appeared on the 29th April 1819. It has since been several times enlarged and improved, and is now as large as the London *Morning Post*. It has a circulation of about 1,600 copies, and has generally a page and a half of profitable advertisements.

From a Parliamentary Paper printed in 1832, we find that the number of periodical publications under the license or sanction of the British Government, at the several Presidencies, was as follows:—

	1811	1820	1830
BENGAL :—			
European Publications	1*	5	31
Native ,,	none	none	8
FORT ST. GEORGE :—			
European Publications	5	8	8
Native ,,	none	none	none
BOMBAY :—			
European Publications	4	4	12
Native ,,	none	2	4
Total . . .	10	19	63

From a list of Indian newspapers made out in 1836, it appeared there were published at Calcutta 3 daily papers, one thrice a week, one twice a week, and 6 weekly, besides several native publications not taken into account; at Serampore, 2 weekly; in the Mofussil, 6 weekly; at Madras, one four times a week, and 6 semi-weekly; at Bombay, 2 weekly, and 2 semi-weekly; at Singapore, 2 weekly; and 1 at Penang.

The weight allowed for newspapers by the post, is $3\frac{1}{2}$ sicca or tolas weight each cover, upon which postage is levied, as upon two rates—2 annas to stations within 400 miles, and 3 annas to stations exceeding that distance. Thus the postage on a daily paper to any station within 400 miles from Calcutta will amount to 40 rupees, and beyond that distance to 60 rupees, per annum.

The price of the Calcutta daily papers are 64 rupees, of the weekly 16 rupees; of the Bombay tri-weekly papers 60 rupees, semi-weekly 30 to 40 rupees.

The Madras and Bombay press has a less extensive circulation than that of Bengal, and it has been changing so much lately, that we possess less accurate details of its actual state. But we find at Madras 9 English newspapers published in 1839, nearly all semi-weekly.

At Bombay the English periodicals are 9 or 10 in number, all issued semi-weekly, and 4 native publications.

In the Ultra-Gangetic provinces, 1 newspaper is published at Loodianah, 1 at Moulmein, 1 at Delhi, 1 at Agra, and 1 at Serampore.

In the island of Ceylon 2 semi-weekly papers and an official *Gazette* are published. The first paper published in Ceylon was the *Government Gazette*, issued in 1802.

East of the Ganges we find a paper published at Pulo-Penang, under the title of the *Prince of Wales's Island Gazette*, which was commenced as early as 1805, but the publication was suspended for some years, and resumed in 1833. Malacca, on the Malay coast, has had several newspapers, one of which, entitled the *Register*, is still continued.

Two weekly newspapers are published at Singapore. The oldest was commenced in 1823, published at first at irregular periods. In the island of Pondicherry a French journal is published, and newspapers are also published at Batavia and Bencoolen. The Portuguese publish 2

* This does not appear to be correct.

newspapers at Macao. Two weekly English newspapers were published at Canton, but are now removed to Macao. The oldest of these is the *Canton Register*, the first number of which appeared on the 7th November, 1827. The *Peking Gazette*, a Chinese paper, is read every where by authority.

Australasia.—Sydney is the grand emporium of literature for this quarter of the globe, and there are published as many as 8 newspapers, all flourishing concerns, and in size and style, counterparts of the best of the English provincial journals. The price is high, 9d. per paper, considering that there is no stamp duty. One appears daily, the other twice or thrice a week. The oldest paper is the *Sydney Gazette*, which was commenced on the 5th March, 1805, fifteen years after the establishment of the colony.

At Melbourne three papers are published twice a week, and 1 weekly at Geelong, making in all 28 publications per week issued in New South Wales. Arrangements are now making for the publication of a paper at Maitland, and one will also be started at Portland Bay in a short time.

South Australia has 4 newspapers, 1 published semi-weekly at Adelaide, and the others weekly. The Swan River Settlement has 2 newspapers issued weekly.

Van Diemen's Land is rather behind her sister colony in this respect. There are in Hobart Town only 6 weekly newspapers, and 1 semi-weekly, besides 2 gratis advertising sheets; and in Launceston, 1 weekly and 1 semi-weekly paper, making in all only 13 publications per week in the whole colony of Van Diemen's Land.

Materials for printing a newspaper went out with the new colony to New Zealand, the first number of the *New Zealand Gazette*, having been printed in London before its departure. The second number appeared at Port Nicholson, on the 18th April, 1840, and a rival paper was forthwith established under the title of the *New Zealand Advertiser*, at Kororakika, Bay of Islands, on the 12th June, 1840.

The *Sandwich Islands*, which were but a few years since inhabited only by barbarians, have now their regular newspaper, ministering to all the wants which belong to civilized society. The *Sandwich Island Gazette*, published at Honolulu, Oahu, has now been established more than three years, and was conducted until lately by Mr. S. D. Mackintosh, who has recently gone to America, where he started another paper. The *Gazette* has since merged into the *Polynesian*.

It would be too much to expect that the preceding statement is perfect in all its details. It is, however, as complete as a long and diligent search for the existing information upon the subject, and an extensive correspondence with news-agents and public authorities in the United Kingdom and foreign countries, and more particularly in the British colonies, have enabled its author to make it; and it may be hoped that the first attempt to give a collective view of the newspaper press of the world will lead others to transmit to the Statistical Society of London more detailed statements for separate countries, which will furnish the means of correcting and filling up this sketch, and of preparing a similar and more complete statement at a future early period.